

1 **WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

2 1. A configurable vehicle seat comprising:
3 a seat base;
4 a seat cushion supported by the seat base; and
5 a seat back coupled to the seat base, with the seat back including a
6 configurable portion, wherein the configurable portion can be selectively moved to
7 one of a seating position and a cargo blocking position.

1 2. The configurable vehicle seat of claim 1, wherein the configurable
2 portion is coupled to the seat back with a hinge mechanism.

1 3. The configurable vehicle seat of claim 2, wherein the hinge mechanism
2 includes an actuator to move the configurable portion.

1 4. The configurable vehicle seat of claim 3, wherein the actuator is
2 selected from the group including a cable, a hydraulic cylinder, and a pneumatic
3 cylinder.

1 5. The configurable vehicle seat of claim 1, wherein the seat back is
2 composed of one of a metal and composition material.

1 6. The configurable vehicle seat of claim 1, wherein the seat back
2 includes a headrest.

1 7. The configurable vehicle seat of claim 1, wherein the seat back
2 includes a side bolster.

1 8. A method for preventing cargo movement from a cargo storage area
2 into a passenger area of a vehicle, the method comprising the steps of:
3 providing a vehicle seat having a seat back with a configurable portion;
4 moving the seat back to a non-seating position; and
5 moving the configurable portion to a cargo inhibiting position.

6 9. The method of claim 8, including the steps of providing a hinge
7 mechanism and coupling the hinge mechanism to the seat back and the configurable
8 portion.

1 10. The method of claim 9, including the steps of providing an actuator
2 and coupling the actuator to the hinge mechanism.

1 11. The method of claim 10, including the step of selecting the actuator
2 from a group including a cable, a hydraulic cylinder, and a pneumatic cylinder.

1 12. The method of claim 8, wherein the seat back is composed of one of a
2 metal and composition material.

1 13. The method of claim 8, wherein the seat back includes a headrest.

1 14. The method of claim 8, wherein the seat back includes a side bolster.